

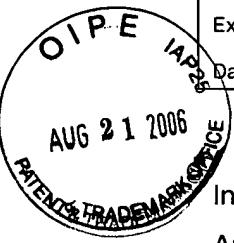
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BRINKS
HOFER
GILSON
& LIONE

In re Appln. of: Kaminsky et al.

Appln. No.: 09/475,534

Filed: December 30, 1999

For: Automated Trading Exchange System
Having Integrated Quote Risk Monitoring
And Integrated Quote Modification Services

Attorney Docket No: 11927/88

Examiner: A. Rudy

Art Unit: 3627

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

Transmittal (in duplicate); Communication; Appellants' Amended Brief in Support of the Appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Return Receipt Postcard.

Fee calculation:

No additional fee is required.

Small Entity.

An extension fee in an amount of \$____ for a ____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(____).

An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Not a Small Entity	
					Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate
Total		Minus			x \$25=		x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			X100=		x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=		+\$360=	
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A check in the amount of \$____ is enclosed.

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Payment by credit card in the amount of \$____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent E. Genin (Reg. No. 37,834)

Date

August 21, 2006

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O P E Date of Deposit: August 21, 2006



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES
(Case No. 11927/88)

In the Application of:)
Kaminsky, et al.) Examiner: Rudy, Andrew J.
Serial No.: 09/475,534)
Filed: December 30, 1999)
For: **Automated Trading Exchange**)
 System Having Integrated Quote)
 Risk Monitoring and Integrated)
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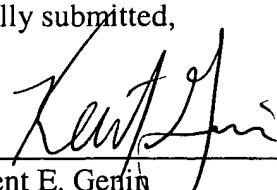
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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION

Appellants submit the attached Amended Appeal Brief in response to the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief dated July 28, 2006. Appellants have corrected errors noted by the Examiner and submit that this Brief is now in condition for review.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Kent E. Gerin
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Date: August 21, 2006

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Kaminsky, et al.) Examiner: Rudy, Andrew J.
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Risk Monitoring and Integrated)
Quote Modification Services)

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**APPELLANTS' AMENDED BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF
THE APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

It is believed that the CHICAGO BOARD OPTIONS EXCHANGE, whose address is: 400 South LaSalle Street, 7th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60605, is a real party in interest in this Appeal pursuant to a recorded assignment of the above-identified application executed by all of the inventors.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants' legal representative is unaware of any other appeals or interferences that will directly affect, be directly affected by or have any bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-7, and 29-30 are canceled.

Claims 8-28 are pending and stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Broka et al. and Mandler et al.

Claims 31-37 are withdrawn.

All of the finally rejected claims, 8-28, are the subject of this appeal.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments have been filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed on April 13, 2004.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Appellants' invention relates in general to financial trading systems. More particularly, it is directed a method and device for market-maker risk management through automatic quote risk monitoring and quote modification in an automated trading system (Specification, page 1, lines

4-6). The system monitors trades associated with a market maker's quotes, and determines a change in the market maker's position as measured by a risk calculation (Specification, page 3, lines 18-20). The system then modifies the quotes if a risk threshold is exceeded (Specification, page 3, lines 20-22).

Appellants' independent claim 8 claims a method of "modifying quotes in an automated exchange trading system." The preamble describes a method of modifying quotes in an automated exchange trading system (see, e.g., Specification, pages 4-17, which describes the hardware and software modules in one preferred embodiment) that receives orders and quotes from remote computers (see, e.g., Specification p. 8, line 4 to p. 10, line 26; Figures 1, elements 114-124; Figure 3 elements 272, 278, 280, 276; p. 15, lines 3-27; p. 16, line 19 through p. 17, line 11), matches the orders and quotes to generate trades (e.g., Specification p. 8, line 4 to p. 10 line 26; Figure 3; p. 14, line 25 to p. 15, line 27; p. 16, line 19 through p. 17, line 11), and stores orders and quotes that are unmatched (Specification p. 8, line 4 to p. 10 line 26; Figure 3; p. 15, lines 3-27; p. 16, line 19 through p. 17, line 11).

The method consists of the following steps. First, "trading parameters comprising a risk threshold" are received by the exchange and "said trading parameters" (Specification p. 17, line 12 through p. 21, line 2; Figure 3, elements 270, 271) are associated "with specified ones of received quotes." (Specification p. 3 lines 10-16; p. 15, lines 3-27; p. 16, line 11 to p. 17, line 4). Then, it is determined "whether a quote having associated trading parameters has been filled as a result of the generated trade." (Specification, p. 16, line 24-31; p. 17, lines 12-18; Figure 3, element 284). If that is the case, then a "risk level" and an "aggregate risk level associated with the trade" is determined. (Specification, p. 17, line 19 to p. 21, line 3). Then, the "risk threshold" and "aggregate risk level" are compared. (Specification p. 17, lines 14-15; p. 21 lines

3-25; Figure 3, element 286). Finally, “at least one of the specified ones of received quotes” is modified if the “threshold is exceeded.” (Specification p. 17, lines 19-25; p. 20. lines 4-6; p. 21, line 3 through p. 24, line 10; Figure 3, element 287).

There are no means-plus-function terms in independent claim 8.

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

There is one ground of rejection presented for review: whether claims 8-28 are obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Broka et al. U.S. Patent. 5,809,483 (hereinafter “*Broka*”) and Mandler et al. U.S. Patent 5,732,400 (hereinafter “*Mandler*”).

VII. ARGUMENT

The Examiner rejected claims 8-28 in the final Office Action as obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Appellants respectfully assert that the Examiner's rejection does not meet the statutory standard required for an obviousness rejection.

A. Summary of the Argument

The prior art cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, fails to show an exchange system that (i) uses a risk threshold associated with a quote; (ii) includes a risk level or aggregate risk level that is determined as a result of a trade; or (iii) uses the threshold and aggregate risk level to automatically modify a quote. Appellants acknowledge that it is well known for traders to engage in the modification of quotes: prior art exchanges allow users to submit messages containing quote cancellation requests and to submit electronic messages containing new or revised quotes. These prior art exchange systems, however, have disadvantages, including the use of computer message queues that receive quote submission or cancellation messages from remote terminals. Under times of high trading volume, these messages queues might cause processing delays of newly submitted cancellation requests, new quotes and/or revised quotes.

On the other hand, Appellants' claimed invention overcomes these and other disadvantages. Appellants respectively submit that it is not known to provide an order matching exchange system that allows its users to provide risk threshold information to the exchange, and to have the exchange system perform risk assessment calculations and responsively make automatic determinations regarding quote regeneration or modification in response to the calculated risk, together with the parameters provided by the user. The claimed system provides for automatic quote modification and/or regeneration and does not require the user to submit quote cancellation requests or quote resubmissions as does the prior art.

Appellants submit that the Examiner's remarks indicate that the pending rejections are impermissible hindsight reconstruction of the claimed invention, which is simply not present in the prior art. Consequently, for the reasons set forth in more detail below, Appellants believe that the references cited by the Examiner do not render claims 8-28 obvious.

B. The Statutory Standard

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) provides that an invention is not patentable:

if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art.

The test for obviousness is well known. The obviousness inquiry requires:

- (1) an inquiry into the scope and content of the prior art;
- (2) identification of the differences between the prior art and the claimed invention;
- (3) determination of the level of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention; and
- (4) consideration of objective evidence of secondary considerations indication non-obviousness.

Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 17 (1966). The PTO has the burden of establishing a prima facie case of obviousness. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 1074 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

To satisfy this burden, the proposed combination of prior art must show each element of the claimed invention. In addition, the Examiner must show some objective teaching in the prior art to suggest the combination, or explain how one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to combine the relevant teachings. *See id.* A proposed modification of a prior art reference is inappropriate for an obviousness inquiry when the modification renders the prior art reference inoperable for its intended purpose. *In re Gordon*, 733 F.2d 900 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

C. **Broka and Mandler Do Not Disclose Appellants' Claimed Invention**

The Examiner's combination of *Broka* and *Mandler* does not show all of the elements present in Appellants' claims 8-28.

1. ***The Broka Reference***

Broka is an online transaction processing system that provides a manual quote modification screen. The quote modification screen identified by the Examiner appears to relate to a graphical user interface that allows an individual to selectively modify quotes. In particular, the specification of *Broka*, at column 15, indicates that if a user “selects a quote and then selects the Modify button … the system displays the Modify quote window” shown in Figures 21(a) or (b), depending on whether the user is a dealer or broker. (*Broka*, col. 15, lines 13-18). The specification further describes that the user must select an “uptick” or a “downtick” to indicate how the quote should be modified. (Id. at lines 41-47). Importantly, the quote modification in *Broka* is not automatically performed, it does not involve a calculation of risk or aggregate risk as a result of a generated trade, and it is not done in response to a risk threshold comparison, which are all elements of the presently rejected claims.

2. *The Mandler Reference*

Mandler discloses a system including a financial clearing house that couples to a broker computer system that in turn provides an on-line quote and order processing service. (*Mandler*, Col. 3, line 66 to Col. 4, line 3). The risk assessment disclosed in *Mandler* is the determination of a buyer's risk classification to determine certain credit terms, such as a discount rate, to use for the buyer's transactions. (*Mandler*, Col. 3, lines 39-55).

3. *The Broka-Mandler Combination*

Neither of the references shows (i) an exchange system that uses a risk threshold associated with a quote; (ii) a risk level or aggregate risk level that is determined as a result of a trade; or (iii) the use of the threshold and aggregate risk level to automatically modify a quote. Thus, even when combined, the references do not result in the claimed invention.

The Examiner's rejections are mere assertions of obviousness without providing a well-reasoned statement of why the claims are obvious as required by the MPEP. In forming the combination, the Examiner acknowledged that *Broka* does not disclose "risk assessment or storing unmatched orders and quotes," but then stated that storing "unmatched orders and quotes are known in computer-automated stock/bond trading systems" was "common knowledge." Even if these modifications were proper (which Appellants do not concede), *Broka* still does not disclose the missing elements. Specifically, the use of the threshold and aggregate risk level to automatically modify a quote is missing.

The Examiner further stated that such a modification of *Broka* for the purposes of modifying a quote would be obvious in view of *Mandler* because one would be motivated "to incorporate well-known risk assessment criteria business rules... to assess whether a trade is executed or not." This statement indicates that the Examiner has misread Appellants' claim

limitations, resulting in the Examiner's misplaced reliance on *Mandler*, which teaches that a potential buyer's risk classification is dynamically determined for use in authorizing a pending transaction or request. (*Mandler*, col. 3, lines 39-54). In this regard, the Examiner has maintained the position that the steps set forth in the claims do not require any "particular sequence of events," and therefore apparently any use of risk measurement and quote updates is all that is required by the claims.

This is clearly not the case. In Appellants' invention, the level of risk assessment is not used to determine whether a trade is (or should be) executed. Rather, the risk level in Appellants' invention is determined after the trade has been executed, as set out in the claim:

determining whether a quote having associated trading parameters has been filled as a result of a generated trade, and if so, determining a risk level and an aggregate risk level *associated with said trade*;

This element specifies that the risk level and aggregate risk level are calculated based on a trade that was just generated. The levels are then used to determine whether quotes are automatically modified, which would only be relevant for a subsequent trade. Thus, again, the combination of *Broka* and *Mandler* simply do not result in the Appellants' claimed invention.

The Examiner has also stated that *Mandler's* risk assessment "is deemed automatic." However, this statement by the Examiner is irrelevant, since regardless of whether the risk assessment is automatic, *Mandler* is not used to determine whether to modify a quote. Thus it is clear that while *Mandler* involves a risk assessment of sorts, it does not teach the association of the risk threshold to a quote, nor does it teach a risk level or aggregate risk level associated with an already executed trade, nor the use of the threshold and aggregate risk level to automatically modify a quote. Thus, the combination of *Broka* and *Mandler* simply does not result in Appellants' claimed invention.

The Examiner has also stated that Appellants' claims do not preclude the manual operations of *Broka*, and that the quote modification of *Broka* is deemed to be automated by virtue of it use "in conjunction with a computer-to-computer interface (CTCI) 150." First, in view of the Examiner's admission that "*Broka* does use a manual quote modification screen," a finding that the quote modification of *Broka* is automatic is not well-founded. (emphasis added)

Second, and more importantly, the mere presence of a computer interface does not justify a conclusion that *Broka* performs an automated quote modification. The claim specifically requires an automated quote modification based on the threshold comparison of the previous step:

automatically modifying at least one of the specified ones of received quotes if said threshold is exceeded.

Thus, even if *Broka* was deemed to be automated, it would still not perform any actions based on a threshold comparison.

The rejection should be reversed because even when combined, the references do not result in the claimed invention. Neither of the references, or obvious variations of them, shows (i) an exchange system that uses a risk threshold associated with a quote; (ii) a risk level or aggregate risk level that is determined as a result of a trade; or (iii) the use of the threshold and aggregate risk level to automatically modify a quote.

D. There is no Objective Reason to Combine Broka and Mandler

In order to establish the required *prima facie* case of obviousness of a claimed invention by applying a combination of references, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination. See M.P.E.P. § 2143.01.

In addition, “a statement that modifications of the prior art to meet the claimed invention would have been ‘well within the ordinary skill of the art at the time the claimed invention was made’ because the references relied upon teach that all aspects of the claimed invention were individually known in the art is not sufficient to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness without some objective reason to combine the teachings of the references.” *Id.*

Appellants respectfully submit that the Examiner’s Office Action does not provide a prior art reference or a well-reasoned statement showing some suggestion of the desirability of doing what Appellants have done. Without providing a reference or convincing reasoning, the Examiner, using impermissible hindsight and language paralleling the above-quoted language, states only:

To have provided the trading system of *Broka* to include a level of risk assessment would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of *Mandler*. The motivation for providing such for an updated quote would have been to incorporate well known risk assessment criteria business rules ...

The Examiner has used Appellants' claims as a roadmap to piece together *Broka* and *Mandler*, as well as additional elements that are supposedly "common knowledge" to one of skill in the art. This is an improper basis on which to predicate an obviousness rejection.

CONCLUSION

Because there is no suggestion to combine the references, Appellants submit that claims 8-28 are allowable over the cited art. But even if, for the sake of argument, a motivation to combine the teachings did exist (which Appellants do not concede), the combined teaching of Broka and Mandler fail to provide the method set forth in claim 8, as set forth above. Appellants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection of the claims on obviousness grounds is in error and should be reversed.

Respectfully submitted,

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE

By:



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Date: August 21, 2006

VIII. CLAIMS APPENDIX

8. A method of modifying quotes in an automated exchange trading system that receives orders and quotes from remote computers, matches the orders and quotes to generate trades, and stores orders and quotes that are unmatched, comprising the steps of:

receiving trading parameters comprising a risk threshold;

associating said trading parameters with specified ones of received quotes;

determining whether a quote having associated trading parameters has been filled as a result of a generated trade, and if so, determining a risk level and an aggregate risk level associated with said trade;

comparing said aggregate risk level with said risk threshold; and,

automatically modifying at least one of the specified ones of received quotes if said threshold is exceeded.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of determining a risk level comprises calculating a delta value for the generated trade.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of determining a risk level comprises calculating a trading volume for the generated trade.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of determining an aggregate risk level comprises determining a net delta.

12. The method of claim 8 wherein the trading parameters further comprise a time duration, and wherein the step of determining an aggregate risk level comprises summing the deltas from trades involving at least a subset of quotes contained in said quote group that were executed within the time duration.

13. The method of claim 8 wherein the trading parameters further comprise an integer N, and wherein the step of determining an aggregate risk level comprises summing the deltas from the most recent N trades involving at least a subset of quotes contained in said quote group.

14. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of determining an aggregate risk level comprises determining a net contract volume.

15. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of determining an aggregate risk level comprises determining a weighted sum of contract volumes.

16. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of determining an aggregate risk level comprises determining an aggregate volume quantity.

17. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of automatically modifying at least one of the specified ones of said received quotes comprises canceling all said specified ones of said received quotes.

18. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of automatically modifying at least one of the specified ones of said received quotes comprises reducing the quantity associated with the specified ones of received quotes.

19. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of automatically modifying at least one of the specified ones of said quotes comprises revising at least one of the bid and offer values of each of the specified ones of received quotes.

20. The method of claim 8 wherein the trading parameters comprise a positive risk threshold and a negative risk threshold.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the step of comparing the aggregate risk level with the risk threshold comprises comparing the aggregate risk level to the positive risk threshold if the aggregate risk level is positive, and comparing the aggregate risk level to the negative risk threshold if the aggregate risk level is negative.

22. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of comparing the aggregate risk level with the risk threshold comprises comparing the absolute value of the aggregate risk level to the risk threshold.

23. The method of claim 8 wherein each of the specified ones of received quotes are associated with one of a first subgroup and second subgroup, and wherein the step of automatically modifying at least one of the specified ones of received quotes in the quote group comprises reducing the offer values of the quotes in the first subgroup and raising the bid values of the quotes in the second subgroup.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the first subgroup comprises quotes on call series options and the second subgroup comprises quotes on put series options, and wherein the aggregate risk is positive.

25. The method of claim 23 wherein the first subgroup comprises quotes on put series options and the second subgroup comprises quotes on call series options, and wherein the aggregate risk is negative.

26. The method of claim 23 where the amount of said reducing and raising is determined in response to a modification increment parameter.

27. The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of automatically modifying a quote comprises regenerating a quote having associated trading parameters that has been filled as a result of the generated trade.

28. The method of claim 27 wherein the step of regenerating a quote is performed utilizing a regeneration increment.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

None

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None